

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the subject application. Claims 2-4, 6, and 11-14 are amended. New claims 50-65 are added. Claims 1, 5, 7-9, and 15-48 are canceled without prejudice. Claims 2-4, 6, 10-14, and 49-65 are pending in this application.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 10 and 49 stand allowed.

Art Rejections

Claims 26-37 and 39-47 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,066,182 to Wilde et al. (hereinafter "Wilde"). Claim 48 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wilde in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,182,275 to Beelitz et al. (hereinafter "Beelitz"). Claims 1-7 and 11-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wilde in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,298,443 to Colligan et al. (hereinafter "Colligan"). Claims 8-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wilde in view of Colligan and Beelitz.

Claims 1, 5, 7-9, 15-37, and 39-48 are canceled without prejudice. Although Applicant disagrees with the rejections of claims 1, 5, 7-9, 15-37, and 39-48 in the February 10, 2004 Office Action, claims 1, 5, 7-9, 15-37, and 39-48 have been canceled without prejudice in order to expedite issuance of the allowed claims. The cancellation of claims 1, 5, 7-9, 15-37, and 39-48 is not intended to be, and should not be interpreted as, Applicant agreeing with the rejections of

claims 1, 5, 7-9, 15-37, and 39-48 in the February 10, 2004 Office Action. Applicant reserves the right to pursue one or more of claim 1, 5, 7-9, 15-37, and 39-48 in one or more continuation applications.

With respect to claims 2-4, 6, and 11-14, claims 2-4, 6, and 11-14 have been amended to depend (directly or indirectly) from allowed claim 10. As such, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2-4, 6, and 11-14 are allowable over the cited references at least because of their dependency on allowed claim 10.

New Claims

New claims 50-65 are added.

New claims 50-57 depend from allowed claim 49. As such, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 50-57 are allowable over the cited references at least because of their dependency on allowed claim 49.

With respect to new claim 58, Applicant respectfully submits that new claim 58 is allowable over the cited references for at least the same reasons as allowed claim 49.

New claims 59-65 depend from new claim 58. As such, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 59-65 are allowable over the cited references at least because of their dependency on claim 58.

Conclusion

Claims 2-4, 6, 10-14, and 49-65 are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and issuance of the subject application. Should any matter in this case remain unresolved, the undersigned attorney

respectfully requests a telephone conference with the Examiner to resolve any such outstanding matter.

Respectfully Submitted,

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